

PMC-EF2a

(20402)

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
EERE PROJECT MANAGEMENT CENTER  
NEPA DETERMINATION**



RECIPIENT: NewPage Wisconsin System

STATE: WI

**PROJECT TITLE :** Project Independence: Construction of an Integrated Biorefinery for Production of Renewable Biofuels at an Existing Pulp and Paper Mill

**Funding Opportunity Announcement Number**  
DE-PS36-07GO97003

**Procurement Instrument Number**  
DE-FC36-08GO18049

**NEPA Control Number**  
GFO-10-396

**CID Number**  
GO18049

Based on my review of the information concerning the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (authorized under DOE Order 451.1A), I have made the following determination:

**CX, EA, EIS APPENDIX AND NUMBER:**

## Description:

**C12** Siting, construction, and operation of energy system prototypes including, but not limited to, wind resource, hydropower, geothermal, fossil fuel, biomass, and solar energy pilot projects.

## Rational for determination:

DOE proposes to provide federal funding to NewPage for final design, construction and operation of a demonstration scale biorefinery. The NewPage biorefinery facility would be integrated with the existing paper mill and produce up to 555 barrels per day (bpd) of clean hydrocarbon biofuel.

DOE is required to complete an Environmental Assessment (C12) before deciding to commit federal funds to this project. The Environmental Assessment, at a minimum, will provide an analysis of potential impacts of construction and operation of the facility on air quality (including greenhouse gases), biological, cultural, water and wetland resources.

DOE previously CXed Budget Period 1 activities for this project. This determination that an Environmental Assessment is required applies to Budget Period 2 activities.

**NEPA PROVISION**

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

Insert the following language in the award:

Note to Specialist :

None Given.

**SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.**

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:

  
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date:

5/13/10

**FIELD OFFICE MANAGER DETERMINATION**

☒ Field Office Manager review required

**NCO REQUESTS THE FIELD OFFICE MANAGER REVIEW FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:**

- ☐ Proposed action fits within a categorical exclusion but involves a high profile or controversial issue that warrants Field Office Manager's attention.
- ☒ Proposed action falls within an EA or EIS category and therefore requires Field Office Manager's review and determination.

**BASED ON MY REVIEW I CONCUR WITH THE DETERMINATION OF THE NCO :**

Field Office Manager's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Field Office Manager

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

5/13/10